

was Adjutant-General of Ohio. In 1848, he published a work called "The Planetary and Stellar Worlds," containing a popular exposition of the important discoveries of modern astronomy. In 1860, his "Popular Astronomy" appeared, a concise elementary treatise on our sun, planets, satellites, and comets; and there is now passing through the press, to be published at an early day, a volume called "The Astronomy of the Bible," in which he endeavors to show that science and revelation may be made eventually to harmonize perfectly.

He was elected a member of the American Philosophical Society in 1853.

Pending nominations Nos. 481 to 490, and new nomination No. 491 were read.

And the Society was adjourned.

Stated Meeting, March 20, 1863.

Present, seventeen members.

Dr. Wood, President, in the Chair.

A letter accepting membership was received from Josiah D. Whitney, lately elected, dated San Francisco, February 13, 1863.

Letters acknowledging the receipt of copies of the Transactions and Proceedings were received from the London Society of Antiquaries, February 27th; the Newcastle Natural History Society, February 24th; the National Museum of Scotland, January 24th; the Massachusetts Historical Society, February 19th and March 16th; the Austrian Consulate at New York, March 19th; the Pennsylvania Historical Society, March 13th; Dr. Charles M. Wetherill of the Agri-

cultural Department, Washington, March 16th, and the St. Louis Academy, March 17th, 1863.

Donations for the Library were received from Mr. Edward Miller, the Bureau of Mines at Paris, the London Meteorological Society, Royal Geographical Society, and Society of Arts, the Scottish Antiquarian Society, the Laval University at Quebec, Mr. Henry Hall, of Rutland, Vermont, the New Bedford Free Public Library, Silliman's Journal, the Franklin Institute, the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and the Cincinnati Young Men's Mercantile Library Association.

Professor Lesley read the following communication from President J. W. Dawson, of McGill College, Montreal.

NOTE ON MR. LESLEY'S PAPER ON THE COAL-MEASURES OF
CAPE BRETON.

The new facts and general considerations on the Nova Scotia coal-field contained in this paper, are of the highest interest to all who have worked at the geology of Nova Scotia. I think it my duty, however, to take exception to some of the statements, which I think a larger collection of facts, would have induced Mr. Lesley himself to modify. My objections may be stated under the following heads.

(1.) It is scarcely safe to institute minute comparisons between the enormously developed coal-measures of Nova Scotia, and the thinner contemporary deposits of the West, any more than it would be to compare the great marine limestones of the period at the West, with the slender representatives of the part of the group to the eastward.

(2.) There is the best evidence that the coal-measures of Nova Scotia never mantled over the Devonian and Silurian hills of the Province, but were on the contrary, deposited in more or less separate areas on their sides.

(3.) Any one who has carefully compared the coal-measures of the Joggins with those of Wallace and Pictou, must be convinced of the hopelessness of comparing individual beds, even at this comparatively small distance. *A fortiori* detailed comparisons with Pennsylvania and more distant localities must fail.

(4.) I do not think that any previous observer has supposed that the coal-measures of Eastern Cape Breton represent the whole of the